

Amherst Recycling & Refuse Management Committee

Meeting Minutes

July 18, 2013 • Department of Public Works • Conference Room, 4:30 PM

Attending members: John Root, Craig Goff, Sue Morrello, and Brenda Kennedy-Davies. Also attending: Arnie Alper.

- Approved minutes (w/ a few amendments) for the May and June 2013 meetings.
- Zero Waste discussion (continued from previous meetings) – Zero Waste Proclamation (“ZWP”): John moved that we delay submitting the ZWP to the Select Board for their approval. There are substantial recommendations to make on the ZWP before it is ready for submittal to the Select Board. Guilford Mooring (town DPW) will be meeting with the private haulers to discuss restructuring curbside pickup (to discuss separation of food waste). Brenda stated that Town Meeting allotted (\$40,000) for a “split” truck body which will allow DPW employees to pick up trash and recyclables simultaneously from the downtown and town parks. Sue has met w/ Guilford regarding the aforementioned split bed truck and has asked if ARHS’s engineering teacher is interested in designing a split bed body. John’s motion was seconded and carried.
- John met with John Gerber of “Grow Food Amherst”, a group promoting locally grown food, and Stephanie Ciccarello, Amherst’s Sustainability Coordinator. They are interested in starting a garden sharing initiative to connect people looking for land to farm/garden with those who have land suitable for farming/gardening, but who, for one reason or another, are not interested in farming it themselves (using the internet resource “hyperlocavore” to connect online).
- Mandatory composting of organic waste is on the horizon.
- Zero Waste Summit Meeting Notes (9/19/2012). Comments: Sue will send pilot for grants for curbside pickup from the Hamilton Wenham program to Brenda who will follow up.
- Cam Weimer – Amend organics: John reported Cam has invited us to inspect/tour his composting operation. Some (all?) of the RRMC present were interested in taking him up on his invitation.
- Hot Summer Nights – email from Susan. Does the RRMC want to volunteer to monitor the disposal/separation of waste into the appropriate bins (trash, compostables, and containers) as we did for the Taste of Amherst? Timing is short as the first “Hot Night” is Wed., July 24th. John and Arnie are taking the lead. Will need a couple of trash stations – tent with appropriately marked bins, signage etc.

Motion to adjourn 6 PM